ResuZine

of Thomas Vose

SHARP #12

(a tolerable picture of me)

References

Available on request.

Just wanted to see if I could, really.

(unfold me...)

Thomas Vose CC-BY-NC 9/2025
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Education

MLIS (Got a fellowship, too!)
UCLA, 2006

M.A., History (Medieval, mainly)
UC Riverside, 2003

B.A., History (Plus a bunch of Latin)
UC Riverside, 2000

Eureka! Leadership Institute
2009 fellow (Infopeople / California State Library)

Library Financial Mgmt. certification
University of Georgia

Certified notary public, 2024

Harwood Institute for Public Innovation
Fellow, 2016

they really think this is shit through the MLIS program...

Current (im a busy bee...)

Affiliations

Member, American Library Association 2007-present

Treasurer, ALA Games and Gaming Round Table, 2025-present (GameRT projects!)

Secretary, Grantsville Lions Club

Secretary, Garrett County Arts Council

Member, Garrett County Health Planning Council

Member, Head Start Advisory Board

Member, Maryland Library Association, 2008-pres.

MAPLA Intergovernmental Relations Committee, 2023-pres. (probably more I forgot...)

Work History

May 2017 - Present: RUTH ENLOW LIBRARY OF GARRETT COUNTY, Garrett County, MD—Director
- 5 locations, 27 staff, service population 29,000

Mar. 2013 - April 2017: PALMDALE CITY LIBRARY, Palmdale, CA - Director (amazing)
- 1 location, 18 staff, service population 160,000

Apr. 2010 - Feb. 2013: PERRIS LIBRARY, Perris, CA (also amazing) - Branch Manager
- 1 location, 18 staff, service population 75,000

Jan. 2008 - Apr. 2010: LAKE ELSINORE LIBRARY, Lake Elsinore, CA - Branch Manager
- 1 location, 6 staff, service population 51,000

Oct. 2006 - Dec. 2007: GRACE MELLMAN LIBRARY, Temecula, CA - Reference Librarian
- Supervised 2 reference staff

Tough neighborhood, but got a lot done.

This was a great first management position.

Had a hell of a boss here!

~~Areas of Expertise~~ (Stuff that interests me.)

Library administration - over a decade's experience as Director
Gaming in libraries - conducted extensively, past president of ALA GameRT
Zines in libraries - self-publish Shard zine series, presented on subject at MLA
Intellectual freedom - co-chair for Maryland's Freedom to Read bill effort
Community outreach - presented on subject at ALA 2015, conduct extensively
Reference services - extensive experience in public reference assistance
Project management - coordinated multiple large efforts with numerous partners
Event planning - book clubs, tournaments, plays, civic discussion, trivia, etc.
Grant writing and management - successfully obtained numerous grants
Cultivating partnerships - developed extensive connections in community
Strategic planning - created multiple plans based on community input
Information literacy - spoken extensively to classes and groups in area in support
Library of Things - added games, garden tools, fishing poles, hotspots, and more
Nonfiction and classic literature - devoted reader, creator of Classics Buttons
Public speaking and advocacy - conducted at length to groups of all types in area
Policy development - extensive experience in crafting policy with staff and Board

Career Highlights

At least, some of the stuff that will fit here.

Fine-free in Garnett County!

Classics Buttons → a collectable gamification initiative - "read a book, get its button" - and MD's Project of the Year for 2025!

D&D

lots of this as GM for the public.

(Other RPGs as well)

(Also published an article in School Library Journal on the subject) (3/2012)

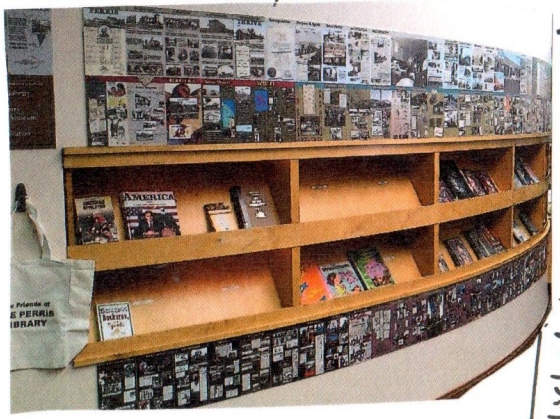
1000 Books Before Kindergarten - over 100 of these books celebrating completers. (names redacted for privacy)

Hold annual seasonal Trivia Night series at local bar during winter

← designed, found funding for, and created this as an outreach tool

Established American Library Association's annual National Trivia Championship in 2022

I really liked how this collaborative historical display at Perris turned out.



Established legal aid programs in multiple locations.

briefly had a library kitty.

← "Page"

(she eventually found a home with a staff member)

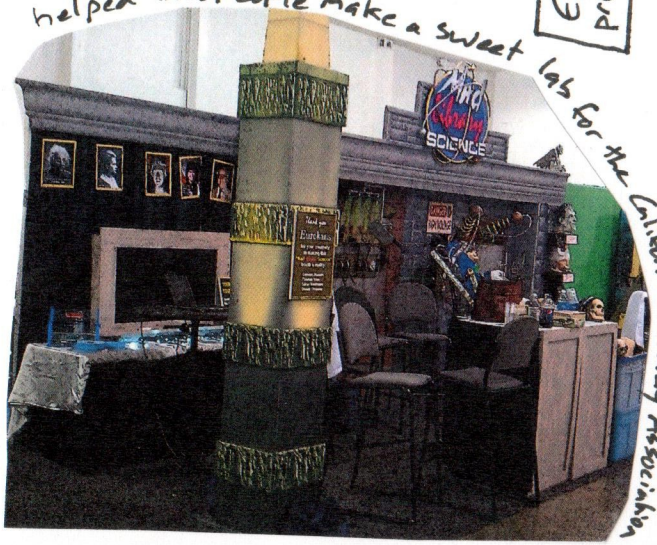
Created a zine series of wildly uneven levels of quality (and taught classes on it)

Obtained Loretta Scott King book grant for Perris, 2012

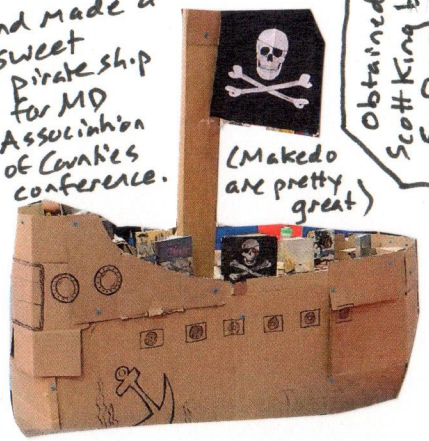
gave out hundreds of laptops in collaboration with the County to address our very real digital divide →

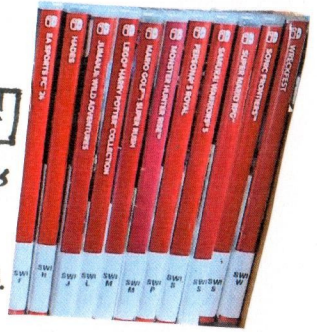
Student Cards for all kids in County!

helped Infopeople make a sweet logo for the California Library Association



and made a sweet pirate ship for MD Association of Counties conference.



(Make do are pretty great)

Advocating for gaming in libraries since 2009, and started video and board game circulation in several locations.